Small ISPs need access to customers. Restricting access to only two viable companies (cable and telcos) is not in the public's interest. Just look at the satisfaction ratings for DSL customers nationwide.

These ratings are available at http://www.dslreports.com/gbu.

Nationwide telcos and cable companies tend to have ratings that are

MUCH worse than the regional ISPs. This one page summarizes why small regional ISPs must survive. These ISP's do not take away profits for the telcos since they must lease the lines from the telcos. Those that want the excellent service that smaller ISPs provide can pay for it, and all involved should profit nicely.